

US-CL-CURRENT: 704/201,704/500 ,704/503

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TITLE: Multi-channel audio decoder

DATE-ISSUED: October 26, 1999

INVENTOR-INFORMATION:

NAME	CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE	COUNTRY
Smyth; Stephen Malcolm	Thousand Oaks	CA	N/A	N/A
Smyth; Michael Henry	Agoura	CA	N/A	N/A
Smith; William Paul	Woodland Hills	CA	N/A	N/A

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ABSTRACT:

A subband audio coder employs perfect/non-perfect reconstruction filters, predictive/non-predictive subband encoding, transient analysis, and psycho-acoustic/minimum mean-square-error (mmse) bit allocation over time, frequency and the multiple audio channels to encode/decode a data stream to generate high fidelity reconstructed audio. The audio coder windows the multi-channel audio signal such that the frame size, i.e. number of bytes, is constrained to lie in a desired range, and formats the encoded data so that the individual subframes can be played back as they are received thereby reducing latency. Furthermore, the audio coder processes the baseband portion (0-24 kHz) of the audio bandwidth for sampling frequencies of 48 kHz and higher with the same encoding/decoding algorithm so that audio coder architecture is future compatible.

22 Claims, 38 Drawing figures

Exemplary Claim Number: 1

Number of Drawing Sheets: 26

CLPV:

a demultiplexer that a) detects the sync word, b) unpacks the frame header to extract a window size that indicates a number of audio samples in the frame and a frame size that indicates a number of bytes in the frame, said window size being set as a function of the ratio of the transmission rate to the encoder sampling rate so that the frame size is constrained to be less than the size of the input buffer, c) unpacks the audio header to extract the number of subframes in the frame and the number of encoded audio channels, and d) sequentially unpacks each subframe to extract the audio side information including the number of sub-subframes, demultiplex the baseband audio codes in each sub-subframe into the multiple audio channels and unpack each audio channel into its subband audio codes, demultiplex the high sampling rate audio codes into the multiple audio channels up to the decoder sampling rate and skip the remaining high sampling rate audio codes up to the encoder sampling rate, and detects the unpack sync to verify the end of the subframe;

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